

Hands on Habitat

State of Texas

What Are the Problems?

- Coastal wetlands Salt marshes are continually lost to coastal erosion and subsidence throughout the upper Texas coast.
- Native oyster population Reduced freshwater inflows coupled with disease make it difficult to maintain healthy oyster stocks.
- Hydrologic modifications Levees or other modifications to tidally influenced habitats have contributed significantly to the loss of coastal wetlands.

Background

The upper Texas coast is the most heavily populated area in the state. Human impacts to coastal resources are most severe in this area. In response to growing anthropogenic pressures and destructive natural processes, restoration needs throughout coastal Texas are great.

What We Do

- Restore seagrass beds and rebuild native oyster reefs
- Return tidal flow to impoundments
- Create and restore marshes for shoreline stabilization
- Remove marine debris
- Perform hydrologic restoration
- Educate communities about the value of habitat and restoration

How We Do It

NOAA's Community-based Restoration Program (CRP) achieves science-based habitat restoration through community involvement and stewardship. We build powerful partnerships among public, private, and non-profit organizations throughout Texas. Our projects continually demonstrate the effectiveness and benefits of locally based habitat conservation along the Texas coastline.



Our Accomplishments

Since 1999, we have:

- Awarded more than \$2.2 million and leveraged more than \$8.1 million
- Funded more than 43 projects
- Completed 23 projects
- Restored almost 5,000 acres of habitat
- Engaged nearly 7,400 volunteers for 35,000 hours in service restoring Texas habitats

Our Partners

NOAA works with over 50 local, private, and public partners in Texas, including the Gulf of Mexico Foundation, Galveston Bay Foundation, the Southeast Aquatic Resources Partnership, FishAmerica Foundation, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, The Nature Conservancy, Scenic Galveston, Texas Corporate Wetland Restoration Partnership, and several state agencies such as the Texas General Land Office and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

Our Focus

Counteract
human impacts
and changes in
coastal habitats
to restore
ecosystem health
throughout the
Texas coast

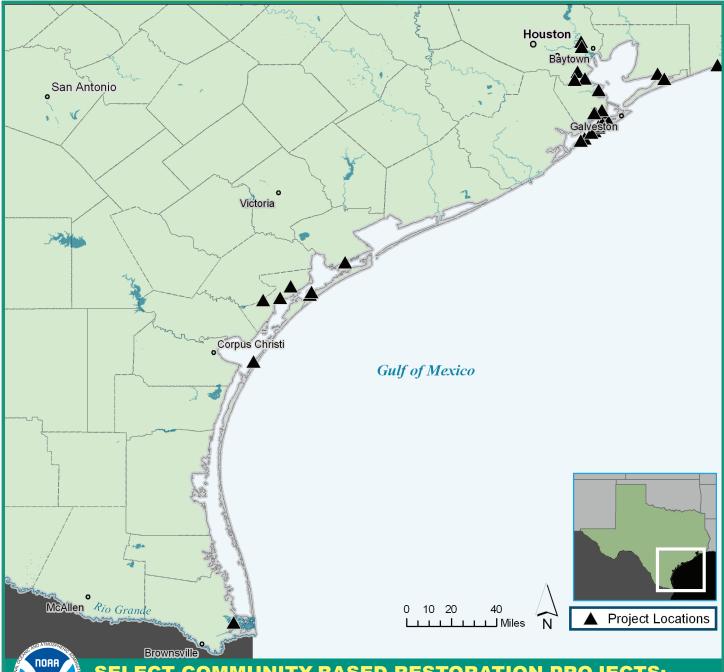
Contact

Kristopher Benson NOAA Restoration Center NOAA Fisheries Service 4700 Ave. U Galveston, TX 77551 409.766.3699 kristopher.benson@noaa.gov www.nmfs.noaa.gov/habitat/restoration

Last updated December 2007

NOAA's Community-based Restoration Program (CRP)

State of Texas



SELECT COMMUNITY-BASED RESTORATION PROJECTS:

Bahia Grande Wetland Restoration, Brownsville

Big Devil Bayou Culvert Repair, Lamar

Brundrett Lake Marsh Restoration. Austwell

Croaker Hole Estuarine Enhancement Project, Corpus Christi

East Galveston Bay Shoreline Restoration Project, Chambers County

Goose Island State Park Shoreline Protection and Marsh Creation Project, Rockport

Jarboe Bayou Park Shoreline Restoration, Clear Lake Shores

Jumbile Cove Marsh Restoration, Jamaica Beach

Scenic Galveston Invasive Species Control

Snake Island Cove Seagrass Restoration and Shoreline Protection Project, Galveston

Texas Crab Trap Removal Project